

Filed for intro on 01/24/96  
SENATE BILL 2613 By  
Gilbert

HOUSE BILL 2540  
By Clabough

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, relative to a license plate for "Friends of Great Smoky Mountains".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section to be appropriately designated:

Section \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles or recreational vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle or recreational vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles or recreational vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle or recreational vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a Friends of Great Smoky Mountains special license plate, either for an automobile, recreational vehicle, or a truck of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter (3/4) ton rating.

(b) (1) The funds derived from the sale of such Friends of Great Smoky Mountains special license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in the Friends of Great Smoky Mountains endowment fund established by this section, to be used exclusively for the assistance of the National park Service in the care of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. The commissioner of environment and conservation is authorized to make disbursements

from the fund in the form of grants to Friends of Great Smoky Mountains, Inc. in order to provide such assistance.

(2) There is hereby established a general fund reserve to be allocated by the general appropriations act which shall be known as the Friends of Great Smoky Mountains endowment fund. Moneys from the fund may be expended to fund activities authorized by this section. Any revenues deposited in this reserve shall remain in the reserve until expended for purposes consistent with this subsection, and shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30. Any excess revenues on interest earned by such revenues shall not revert on any June 30, but shall remain available for appropriation in subsequent fiscal years. Any appropriation from such reserve shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30, but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

(3) No expenditure shall be made from the principal of the fund. No expenditures shall be made from the interest earned until the combination of principal and interest reaches one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). Thereafter, interest earned shall be available for expenditures to aid in carrying out the purposes of this fund.

(c) The special plates provided for in this section shall be issued in conformity with the provisions of § 55-4-202, and shall be designed in consultation with the executive director of the Tennessee wildlife resources agency, the director of the motor vehicle division and the department of safety. The special plates shall include a unique identifying number, whereby the total characters do not exceed the sum of seven (7); provided, that no two (2) recipients shall receive identical plates.

(d) (1) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to mean that any eligible person shall be prevented from exchanging a regular type plate for one of special design; provided, that the fees prescribed under § 55-4-203 are paid.

(2) The whole or parts of the fee for a special registration plate shall not be refunded for the exchange of a regular plate.

(e) Additional special license plates may be obtained by any eligible person upon payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under § 55-4-111, plus the payment of the fee prescribed in § 55-4-203.

(f) (1) Special plates issued pursuant to this section may be transferred to another vehicle of the same weight class owned or leased by the same person upon proper application being made therefore and approved by the department of safety.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to whom such plates have been issued to knowingly permit them to be displayed on any vehicle, except such as authorized by the department.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202 (c)(3), is amended by adding a new subdivision as follows:

( ) Friends of Great Smoky Mountains;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203, is amended by adding a new item as follows:

( ) Friends of Great Smoky Mountains -- twenty five dollars (\$25.00).

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1996, the public welfare requiring it.

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